

CLAIMS

1. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility, characterized by;

comprising, in mass%,

C: not less than 0.01 % and not more than 0.20 %, Si: not more than 1.5 %,

Al: not more than 1.5 %,

Mn: not less than 0.5 % and not more than 3.5 %, P: not more than 0.2 %, S: not less than 0.0005 % and not more than 0.009 %, N: not more than 0.009 %, Mg: not less than 0.0006 % and not more than 0.01 %, O: not more than 0.005 % and Ti: not less than 0.01 % and not more than 0.20 % and/or Nb: not less than 0.01 % and not more than 0.10 %, with the balance consisting iron and unavoidable impurities, having the Mn%, Mg%, S% and O% satisfying equations (1) to (3), and having the structure primarily comprising one or more of ferrite, bainite and martensite.

$$[\text{Mg}\%] \geq ([\text{O}\%]/16 \times 0.8) \times 24 \quad \dots (1)$$

$$[\text{S}\%] \leq ([\text{Mg}\%]/24 - [\text{O}\%]/16 \times 0.8 + 0.00012) \times 32 \quad \dots (2)$$

$$[\text{S}\%] \leq 0.0075/[\text{Mn}\%] \quad \dots (3)$$

2. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility described in claim 1, characterized by containing not less than  $5.0 \times 10^2$  per square millimeter and not more than  $1.0 \times 10^7$  per square millimeter of composite precipitates of MgO, MgS and (Nb, Ti)N of not smaller than 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$  and not larger than 3.0  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-

expandability and ductility described in claim 1,  
characterized by having Al% and Si% satisfying equation  
(4).

$$[\text{Si}\%]+2.2\times[\text{Al}\%]\geq 0.35 \quad \dots (4)$$

5        4. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-  
expandability and ductility described in claim 2,  
characterized by having Al% and Si% satisfying equation  
(4).

$$[\text{Si}\%]+2.2\times[\text{Al}\%]\geq 0.35 \quad \dots (4)$$

10       5. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-  
expandability and ductility described in any of claims 1  
to 4, characterized by;

having Ti%, C%, Mn% and Nb% satisfying  
equations (5) to (7),

15       having the structure primarily comprising  
bainite, and

having a strength exceeding 980 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

$$0.9\leq 48/12\times[\text{C}\%]/[\text{Ti}\%]<1.7 \quad \dots (5)$$

$$50227\times[\text{C}\%]-4479\times[\text{Mn}\%]>-9860 \quad \dots (6)$$

20        $811\times[\text{C}\%]+135\times[\text{Mn}\%]+602\times[\text{Ti}\%]+794\times[\text{Nb}\%]>465 \quad \dots (7)$

6. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-  
expandability and ductility described in any of claims 1  
to 4, characterized by;

25       having C%, Si%, Al% and Mn% satisfying  
equation (8),

having the structure primarily comprising  
ferrite and martensite, and

having a strength exceeding 590 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

$$-100\leq -300[\text{C}\%]+105[\text{Si}\%]-95[\text{Mn}\%]+233[\text{Al}\%] \quad \dots (8)$$

30       7. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-  
expandability and ductility described in claim 6,  
characterized in that;

not less than 80 % of crystal grains  
having a short diameter (ds) to long diameter (dl) ratio  
35       (ds/dl) of not less than 0.1 exist in the steel  
structure.

8. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility described in claim 7, characterized in that;

5 not less than 80 % of ferrite crystal grains having a diameter of not less than 2  $\mu\text{m}$  exist in the steel structure.

9. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility described in any of claims 1 to 4, characterized by;

10 having C%, Si%, Mn% and Al% satisfying equation (8),

having the structure primarily comprising ferrite and bainite, and

15 having the strength exceeding 590 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.  
 $-100 \leq -300[\text{C}\%] + 105[\text{Si}\%] - 95[\text{Mn}\%] + 233[\text{Al}\%] \dots (8)$

10. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility described in claim 9, characterized in that;

20 not less than 80 % of crystal grains having a short diameter (ds) to long diameter (dl) ratio (ds/dl) of not less than 0.1 exist in the steel structure.

25 11. High-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility described in claim 10, characterized in that;

not less than 80 % of ferrite crystal grains having a diameter of not less than 2  $\mu\text{m}$  exist in the steel structure.

30 12. A method for manufacturing high-strength steel sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility, which has the structure primarily comprising ferrite and martensite and a strength in excess of 590 N/mm<sup>2</sup>, characterized by the steps of;

35 completing the rolling of steel having a composition described in any of claim 1 to 4 at a finish-rolling temperature of not lower than the Ar<sub>3</sub>

transformation point,  
cooling at a rate of not less than 20  
°C/sec, and

coiling at a temperature below 300 °C.

5           13. A method for manufacturing high-strength steel  
sheet, excellent in hole-expandability and ductility,  
which has the structure primarily comprising ferrite and  
martensite and a strength in excess of 590 N/mm<sup>2</sup>,  
characterized by the steps of;

10                    completing the rolling of steel having a  
composition described in any of claims 1 to 4 at a  
finish-rolling temperature of not lower than the Ar<sub>3</sub>  
transformation point,

15                    cooling to between 650 °C and 750 °C at a  
rate of not less than 20 °C/sec,

air-cooling at said temperature for not  
longer than 15 seconds,

re-cooling, and

coiling at a temperature below 300 °C.

20           14. A method for manufacturing high-strength steel  
sheet, excellent in hole-expandability and ductility,  
which has the structure primarily comprising ferrite and  
bainite and a strength in excess of 590 N/mm<sup>2</sup>,  
characterized by the steps of;

25                    completing the rolling of steel having a  
composition described in any of claims 1 to 4 above at a  
finish-rolling temperature of not lower than the Ar<sub>3</sub>  
transformation point,

30                    cooling at a rate of not less than 20  
°C/sec, and

coiling at a temperature of not lower than  
300 °C and not higher than 600 °C.

35           15. A method for manufacturing high-strength steel  
sheet excellent in hole-expandability and ductility,  
which has the structure primarily comprising ferrite and  
bainite and a strength in excess of 590 N/mm<sup>2</sup>,

characterized by the steps of;

completing the rolling of steel having a composition described in any of claims 1 to 4 above at a finish-rolling temperature not lower than the  $A_{r3}$

5 transformation point,

cooling to between 650 °C and 750 °C at a rate of not less than 20 °C/sec,

air-cooling at said temperature for not longer than 15 seconds,

10 re-cooling, and

coiling at a temperature of not lower than 300 °C and not higher than 600 °C.